



Amy Pitter, Commissioner • Robert G. Nunes, Deputy Commissioner & Director of Municipal Affairs

DLS Distributes Community Preservation Funds

Municipal Databank

On October 15, 2012, the Division of Local Services paid the annual distribution of state funds to the 148 communities that adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) and collected the local surcharge during FY2012 (See: http://www.mass.gov/dor/local-officials/municipal-data-and-financial-management/data-bank-reports/cpa/cpa-state-match.html). The state payments totaled \$27.7 million and revenues were sufficient to provide a first round match of 26.83 percent. The first round match exceeded our initial projection of 22 percent due to strong collections of Registry of Deeds revenues over the most recent six months. In contrast, during the first six months used to determine our initial projection, Registry collections lagged the prior year's results by \$1.6 million.

For the 75 communities that adopted the maximum three percent surcharge, additional state funds were paid through a second round equity distribution and third round surplus distribution. These second and third round distributions are based on formulas that steer additional state funding to communities with lower populations and equalized property valuations per capita. These supplemental distributions were enough to provide a 100 percent state reimbursement for nine communities.

Statewide, CPA surcharges committed locally totaled \$89.2 million in FY2012, after accounting for abatements and exemptions. Twenty-four communities committed more than \$1 million in local surcharges while twenty communities committed less than \$100,000 in FY2012. Cambridge committed more than \$7.7 million in local surcharges, making the city by far the largest participant in the program (Lexington is the next highest at \$3.3 million). The island community of Gosnold had the smallest CPA surcharge commitment in the state at \$3,760.

If you have any questions about this distribution, please contact the Municipal Databank staff at 617-626-2384 or databank@dor.state.ma.us.